

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 ACDA-07 ( ISO ) W  
-----040542Z 016331 /67

R 031553Z MAR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2352  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM  
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 3750

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, EG  
SUBJECT: GOE VIEW OF LIBYA AFTER KHARTOUM SUMMIT

REFS (A) ALEXANDRIA 154, (B) TRIPOLI 262

1. SADAT DID NOT USE OCCASION TRIPARITE KHARTOUM SUMMIT TO SPELL OUT IN PUBLIC HIS UNSHAKEABLE CONVICTION THAT QADHAFI HAS BECOME THREAT TO AREA SECURITY. PRESUMABLY SADAT JUDGED THAT HIS PURPOSE IN STAGING CONFERENCE IN SUDAN AND FOLDING NUMAYRI INTO "UNIFIED POLITICAL COMMAND" REQUIRED LITTLE RHETORICAL ELUCIDATION.

2. SADAT'S CONTINUING MISTRUST OF QADHAFI IS NOT, OF COURSE, LIMITED TO HIS CONCERN FOR SECURITY OF NUMAYRI AND NE AFRICA. ACCORDING TO RELIABLE SOURCE, EGYPTIANS ARE KEEPING THEIR MILITARY FORCES IN WESTERN DESERT AT THE TWO BRIGADE LEVEL. LIBYAN POLITICAL SUBVERSION CONTINUES IN UNIVERSITIES AND PRESUMABLY WHEREVER ELSE LARGE THINKS ITS MONEY WELL SPENT (PERHAPS CHIEFLY WITH IKHWAN ELEMENTS). MOST EGYPTIANS WILL BELIEVE OFFICIAL GOE CHARGE THAT EXPLOSION IN SMALL ALEXANDRIA HOTEL FEB 26 (REF A) WAS WORK OF LIBYAN AGENT (WHO HAS NOW REPORTEDLY CONFESSED).  
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QADHAFI'S CONTINUED WILLINGNESS COOPERATE WITH SOVIETS IS VIEWED GRAVELY IN CAIRO AND RECENT REFERENCES TO PUTATIVE "EGYPTIAN LIBERATION FRONT" BY RADIO TRIPOLI IS FURTHER IRRITANT FOR GOE (THOUGH WE THINK FEW EGYPTIANS BELIEVE SUCH ORGANIZATION EXISTS).

3. LATEST EGYPTIAN COMPLAINT, AIRED ON MARCH 3 AHARAM FRONT PAGE AND CONVEYED EARLIER TO AMBASSADOR BY SENIOR MFA OFFICIAL, IS

LARG'S ABORTIVE EFFORTS GET AFRO-ARAB SUMMIT SHIFTED OUT OF CAIRO,  
AND HAVING FAILED TO ACHIEVE THIS OBJECTIVE, QADHAFI  
LAUNCHED "INTENSIVE" CAMPAIGN IN AFRICAN CAPITALS AND AT LOME  
TO LOWER THE LEVEL OF REPRESENTATION TO AMBASSADRIAL RANK.

4. EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR IN TRIPOLI POINTS UP GRAPHICALLY PRESSURE WHICH

EGYPTIAN CITIZENS LIVING IN LIBYA ARE EXPERIENCING. HE ESTIMATES  
THAT ABOUT 15 EGYPTIANS EACH DAY ARE NOW RENOUNCING  
THEIR CITIZENSHIP (REF B). LIBYAN AMBASSADOR CLAIMED RECENTLY  
TO AMBASSADOR THAT MOAN ONE QUARTER OF LIBYAN POPULATION  
IS EGYPTIAN: 250,000 EGYPTIANS LIVE IN LIBYA, ANOTHER 250,000  
ARE SPOUSES OF LIBYANS. (THESE FIGURES APPARENTLY DOUBLE TRUE  
SIZE OF EGYPTIAN RESIDENT POPULATION.) ANOTHER 100,000 ARE  
"DUAL NATIONAL" BORDER BEDOUIN (GOE WOULD DISPUTE "DUAL  
NATIONAL" NOTION HOTLY). WHILE SPECTER OF MASS EXPULSIONS  
FROM LIBYA WOULD BE BLOW TO FLLUNDERING EGYPTIAN ECONOMY, THESE  
"HOSTAGES" WOULD, WE ASSUME, BE DIFFICULT FOR QADHAFI TO REPLACE,  
ESPECIALLY IN EDUCATION FIELD WHERE HE PRESUMABLY STILL NEEDS  
LARGE NUMBER ARABIC SPEAKING TEACHERS.

5. WITH EGYPTIAN/SYRIAN RAPPROACHMENT, SYRIA'S ENEMIES HAVE  
BECOME EGYPT'S ENEMIES AND VICE VERSA. THIS PUTS IRAQ AND LIBYA  
BEYOND THE RESPECTABLE ARAB PALE. WE SEE LITTLE LIKELIHOOD OF  
QADHAFI'S ACHIEVING RESPECTIABILITY. SUCH WOULD REQUIRE  
POLITICAL METAMORPHOSIS. EVEN IF QADHAFI WERE SUDDENTLY TO "SEE  
THE LIGHT", EGYPTIANS FROM SADAT ON DOWN WOULD SCENT A TRICK FROM  
THE COLONEL, WHO, WE REPEAT, IS GENUINELY CONSIDERED HERE TO BE  
MENTALLY UNBALANCED.

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6. SINCE SADAT AND ASAD DO NOT NEED LIBYA IN PEACE PROCESS, WE  
THINK LIBYAN/EGYPTIAN RELATIONS LIKELY REMAIN IN CURRENT HOSTILE  
CONDITION. UNLESS LIBYA TAKES SOME OVERT ACTION AGAINST NUMAYRI  
OR EGYPT, HOWEVER, SADAT UNLIKELY IN THIS "YEAR OF PEACE" SPEND  
MUCH TIME ON OR DEVOTE MUCH THETORIC TO LIBYA. WE BELIEVE, NEVER-  
THELESS, THAT HE STILL INTENDS ULTIMATELY GO GET RID OF HIM,  
THOUGH WE ASSUME HE IS STILL PUZZLED ON HOW TO GO ABOUT THIS  
OPERATION.

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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